



First Strike Ration ***(FSR)***

What It Is:

Eat-out-of-hand...eat on the move...The prototype First Strike Ration will be a high energy, eat-out-of-hand/eat-on-the-move concept with scenario driven tailorability (cold, temperate, hot environment) for use during the first few days of combat. When compared with the Meal-Ready-to-Eat, the FSR will have a projected weight and volume reduction of 47% and 56% respectively with a similar cost per calorie.

How It Works:

The FSR will be comprised of components such as the shelf stable pocket sandwich, energy rich snacks, dairy bar, and performance enhancing ration components such as the HooAh! Bar and the ERGO drink. The FSR is designed to be eaten while on the move.

It will incorporate novel processing, packaging, stabilization and preservation technologies. Bioengineering and novel delivery systems will be used to develop ration components that contain desired nutrition/performance-enhancing constituents in a portable, easily consumed and acceptable form. Components will include carbohydrate and protein-derived constituents to enhance physical functioning and/or psychological resistance to stress. Micronutrient fortification is also anticipated.

Benefits:

The FSR supports Objective Force requirement for a more strategically responsive, agile, and highly mobile force. Designed to maintain/improve mental/physical performance. Lightweight packaging with compact configuration will result in a reduction in weight and cube. The FSR will be comprised of dense and energy rich components.

Focus group with soldiers have been conducted to provide feedback on potential components and packaging concepts. Marines will evaluate prototype FSRs in 2002.

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